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10/611,373	06/30/2003	Dane M. Howard	50037.128US01	3139
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MERCHANT & GOULD (MICROSOFT)			EXAMINER	
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/611,373

Applicant(s)

HOWARD ET AL.

Examiner

Peng Ke

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 6/22/07.

Claims 1-40 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 30, and 40 are independent claims. In the Amendment, filed on 6/22/07, claims 1-19, 23-31, 33-37 and 40 were amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11, 14, and 16-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraishi US Patent 6,809,724 in view of Barnett US Patent 7,174,517.

As per claim 1, Shiraishi teaches a method for navigating stored content on an electronic device that includes a display and an interface selection device, wherein the stored content is associated with a schedule of a calendar, the method comprising:

Monitoring the interface selection device for user initiated interaction; (column 11, lines 65-column 1210)

Selecting an appointment from the schedule when appointment view operating mode is selected as the current operating mode; (column 35, lines 38-50)

Selecting a current view for the selected appointment when the appointment view operating mode is selected within the calendar channel; (column 35, lines 38-50)

Art Unit: 2174

Updating the display with the current view, wherein the display is partitioned into a header region and a main body region such that the entire display is mapped to the current view (column 37, lines 32-45)

Initiating a next function with the current operating mode of the calendar channel in response to user initiated interaction with the interface selection device; and (column 15, lines 25-40)

Changing the current view to a next view within the current operating mode of the calendar channel when the next function is initiated and the appointment view operating mode is active. (column 15, lines 20-25)

However, Shiraishi fails to teach selecting a current operating mode for a calendar channel when the calendar channel is activated, wherein available operating modes within the calendar channel comprise an appointment view operating mode and an event view operating mode, and wherein one of the available operating modes is automatically selected as a default for the current operating mode when the calendar channel is activated, wherein each event that is accessible from the event view operating mode has a corresponding event time criteria, and wherein each appointment that is accessible from the appointment view operating mode has a corresponding appointment time criteria, and wherein events are maintained separate from appointments; accessing a schedule when the appointment view operating mode is activated, wherein the schedule includes appointments, wherein each appointment corresponds to a single entry in the schedule;

Barnett teaches selecting a current operating mode for a calendar channel when the calendar channel is activated, wherein available operating modes within the calendar channel

Art Unit: 2174

comprise an appointment view operating mode and an event view operating mode, (see Barnett, column 15, lines 1-25) and wherein one of the available operating modes is automatically selected as a default for the current operating mode when the calendar channel is activated, (see Barnett 16, lines 15-40) wherein each event that is accessible from the event view operating mode has a corresponding event time criteria, and wherein each appointment that is accessible from the appointment view operating mode has a corresponding appointment time criteria, (see Barnett, column 13, lines 30-70) and wherein events are maintained separate from appointments; (see Barnett, column 12, lines 25-60) accessing a schedule when the appointment view operating mode is activated, wherein the schedule includes appointments, wherein each appointment corresponds to a single entry in the schedule; (see Barnett; column 15 ,lines 15-25)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Barnett's teaching with method of Shiraishi in order to provide user with a calendar system that is extremely flexible and configurable which include special events within it.

As per claim 2, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches initiating a calendar channel splash screen when a calendar channel is activated such the display indicate the current channel selection as the calendar channel without identifying current view details associated with appointments. (column 14, lines 10-16; A schedule display is a splash screen)

As per claim 3, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 2. Shiraishi further teaches the calendar channel splash screen includes a date indicator that changes based on the

Art Unit: 2174

current date. (column 14, lines 50-65, The vertical line is an indicator of the past, the present and the future)

As per claim 4, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 2. Shiraishi further teaches dismissing the channel splash screen from the display after the calendar splash screen is displayed for a predetermined time interval without user initiated interaction with the interface selection device. (figure 18, items S18, The return to the main screen is dismissing the channel splash screen)

As per claim 5, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 2. Shiraishi further initiating an enter function in response to user initiated interaction with the interface selection device, and dismissing the calendar channel splash screen from the display in response to the enter function after the calendar channel splash screen is displayed. (column 27, lines 28-60)

As per claim 6, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches where in selecting the appointment from the schedule when the appointment view operating mode is selected further comprises: automatically selecting a most imminent non-expired appointment from the schedule from the current day, wherein the most imminent non-expired appointment changes over time such that the selection also dynamically changes without user interaction with the interface selection device (column 21, lines 65-column 22, lines 8)

As per claim 7, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches wherein the current view for the selected appointment corresponds to a no appointment screen when there is no remaining appointments in the schedule for the current day. (figure 7B, item 30 B, the days 14 and 15, the empty column is a no appointment screen)

Art Unit: 2174

As per claim 8, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches automatically alternating between different views that are associated with the header region of the display such that the header region periodically changes after a timeout interval expires without user initiated interaction with the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is selected. (column 14, lines 30-45; The change of the time, or the date is a periodic change)

As per claim 9, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 8. Wherein the different styled views that are associated with the header region includes a representation of a least one of a group comprising: current day of the week, a current date of the month, and a current time of the day. (figure 1B, item 42)

As per claim 10, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches automatically alternating between different views that are associated with the main body region of the display such that the main body region periodically changes after a timeout interval expires without any user initiated interaction with the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is selected. (column 14, lines 30-45; The color change of the appointment is a periodic change)

As per claim 11, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 10. Shiraishi further teaches the main body region includes a representation of at least one member of a group comprising: a current day of the week, a current date of the month, a current time of the day, a time remaining until the currently selected appointment, a time duration of the currently selected appointment, and a summary of the currently selected appointment. (figure 1b, item 52)

As per claim 14, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches initiating a previous function in response to the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is active, and changing the current view to a previous view within the the currently selected operating mode when the previous function is initiated and the appointment view operating mode is active. (column 36, lines 5-50)

As per claim 16, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 14. Shiraishi further teaches wherein the previous appointment from the schedule within the currently selected operating mode when the current view corresponds to the first view that is associated with the selected appointment. (column 53, lines 65-column 54, lines 35)

As per claim 17, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches activating a day browser within the currently selected operating mode in response to the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is active, wherein the day browser includes an indicator of a date that is associated with the selected appointment on the display, wherein a currently selected day can be changed with the interface selection device while the day browser is active. (figure 49 A, item 609)

As per claim 18, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 17. Shiraishi further teaches the indicator of the date from the day browser corresponds to a screen overlay that includes a substantially portion of the display, wherein the screen overlay identifies the current date in a textual representation. (figure 49 A, item 609)

As per claim 19, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches activating a selection list within the currently selected operating mode in response to the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is active, wherein the selection list is organized as a list of items that are associated with an appointment in the schedule for a selected day, and wherein the interface selection device is configured for selecting one of the items in the list within the currently selected operating mode. (column 34, lines 54-column 35, lines 25)

As per claim 20, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 19. Shiraishi further teaches wherein the selection list includes a header section and a main body section, wherein the header section indicates the selected day, wherein the main body section includes a time sorted list of the appointments that are associated with the schedule for the selected day, and wherein the selected item from the list is indicated by a visual cue. (column 34, lines 54-column 35, lines 25)

As per claim 21, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 19. Shiraishi further teaches list includes items that span more than one display screen, and wherein a bottom region of the display screen includes an indicator that indicates an end of the list. (column 35, lines 5-15, column 36, lines 40-50)

As per claim 22, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 19. Shiraishi further teaches the selection list includes items that span more than one display screen, and wherein a

Art Unit: 2174

top region of the display screen includes an indicator that indicates a beginning of the list.

(column 35, lines 5-15, column 36, lines 40-50)

As per claim 23, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches activating a mode select function within the appointment view operating mode of the calendar channel in response to the interface selection device when the appointment view operating mode is active, displaying a mode-splash screen on the display when the mode select function is active, wherein the mode-splash screen indicates the selected operating mode, and changing the selected operating mode with the interface selection device when the mode select function is active. (column 39, lines 25-45)

As per claim 24, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 23. Shiraishi further teaches deactivated in response to at least one member of a group comprising : activation of a selector on the interface selection device, and expiration of a timeout condition without the activation of the selector on the selection interface device. (column 39, lines 40-45; moving higher up the hierarchy cancels the mode)

As per claim 25, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 23. Shiraishi teaches the selected operating mode corresponds to at least one member of a group comprising: the appointment view operating mode, an event view operating mode, and a month view operating mode. (column 39, lines 28-45, Project view is event view)

As per claim 26, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches

Selecting the current operating mode as an event view operating mode within the calendar channel when a mode select function is activated in the calendar channel; (column 34, lines 54-column 35, lines 25)

Selecting an event from the schedule when the event view operating mode is activated; (figure 29 A, item 337) and

Selecting the current view that is associated with the selected event. (figure 29 A, item 337)

As per claim 27, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 26. Shiraishi further teaches changing the selected event within the selected operating mode to a next event when the next function is initiated and the event view operating mode is active. (column 15, lines 25-40)

As per claim 28, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi further teaches:

Selecting the current operating mode as a month view operating mode within the calendar channel in response to the interface selection device when a mode select function is activated in the calendar channel; (column 35, lines 25-40)

Selecting a month that is associated with the calendar when the month view operating mode is activated; (column 35, lines 25-40) and

Selecting the current view that is associated with the selected month. (column 35, lines 25-40)

Art Unit: 2174

As per claim 29, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 28. Shiraishi further teaches:

Changing the selected month to a next month within the selected operating mode when the next function is initiated and the month view operating mode is active. (column 35, lines 25-40)

As per claim 30, it is of the same scope as claim 1. Supra.

As per claim 31, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 30. Shiraishi further teaches selecting the appointment from the schedule when the appointment view operating mode is activated further comprises: a means for automatically selecting a most imminent non-expired appointment from the schedule for the current day without user initiated interaction with the user interface. (column 36, lines 5-50)

As per claim 32, it is of the same scope as claim 7.

As per claim 33, it is of the same scope as claim 4.

As per claim 34, it is of the same scope as claim 8.

As per claim 35, it is of the same scope as claim 10.

As per claim 36, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 30. Shiraishi further teaches

Art Unit: 2174

A means for selecting the current operating mode as an event view operating mode within the calendar channel when a mode select function is activated in the calendar channel; (column 35, lines 25-40)

A means for selecting an event from the schedule when the event view operating mode is activated; (column 35, lines 25-40) and

A means for selecting the current view that is associated with the selected event. (column 35, lines 25-40)

As per claim 37, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 30. Shiraishi further teaches

A means for selecting the current operating mode as a month view operating mode in response to the interface to the interface selection device when a mode select function is activated in the calendar channel. (column 35, lines 25-40)

A means for selecting a month that is associated with the calendar when the month view operating mode is activated; (column 35, lines 25-40) and

A means for selecting the current view that is associated with the selected month. (column 35, lines 25-40)

As per claim 38, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 30. Shiraishi further teaches a means for customizing that is arranged to customize the schedule of the calendar. (column 54, lines 37-65)

As per claim 39, Shiraishi and Barnett teach an apparatus as in claim 30. Shiraishi further teaches a means for synchronizing that is arranged to synchronize the schedule of the calendar with an application program. (column 53, lines 5-30)

As per claim 40, it is of the same scope as claim 1. Supra.

Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraishi US Patent 6,809,724 further in view of Barnett US Patent 7,174,517 further in view of Beaton US Patent 6,037,937

As per claim 12, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi and Barnett fail to teach the next view corresponds to another display screen that is associated with the selected appointment when the selected appointment spans more than one display screen.

Beaton teaches the next view corresponds to another display screen that is associated with the selected document when the selected document spans more than one display screen. (column 5, lines 10-26)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Beaton's teaching with method of Shiraishi and Barnett in order to store long messages.

As per claim 15, it is of the same scope as claim 12. Supra.

Claims 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiraishi US Patent 6,809,724 in view Barnett US Patent 7,174,517 further in view of Will US Patent 5,825,353.

As per claim 13, Shiraishi and Barnett teach the method of claim 1. Shiraishi and Barnett fail to teach the next view corresponds to a next appointment from the schedule when the current view corresponds to the last view that is associated with the selected appointment.

Will teaches the next view corresponds to a next appointment from the schedule when the current view corresponds to the last view that is associated with the selected appointment.

(column 9, lines 40-60)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Will's teaching with method of Shiraishi and Barnett in order to provide an interface that allows an easy navigation of next and previous messages.

Response to Argument

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims filed on 6/22/07 have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2174

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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